



Washington State Commission on

Asian Pacific American Affairs

Leader in
ADVOCACY

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E-Legislative Update

January 18, 2010

Today marks the beginning of the second week of the legislative session. As this is a short session, only sixty days, there is much activity. In this stage of the legislative process, bills are being referred to committees. A bill has a public hearing before Senate and House committees prior to being considered on the floor of the House and Senate. Your opportunity to testify on a bill comes at the committee hearings. If you cannot appear before a committee, [contact your legislator](#) making your position on a bill known. You can do so by writing a letter, sending an e-mail, calling the legislator's Olympia office, or by calling the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-562-6000.



The Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs legislative priorities focus on state budget development and bills that impact the Asian Pacific American community in the areas of education, health care, human services, economic development, and immigration.

Week One Highlights:

Given the current economic climate, the Commission supports the Governor's efforts to increase revenue to support vital state programs. On Tuesday, January 12, 2010, after her State of the State address, Governor Gregoire released a second budget to revise her initial budget released in December. This revised budget proposes to restore almost 780 million dollars in health, human services, education, and public safety services. It is the task of the legislature to consider revenue measures to raise the 780 dollars or more in needed revenue. Legislative Committees such as House Ways and Means, House Health and Human Services Appropriations, and House Education Appropriations held work sessions last week to review the Governor's revised supplemental budget. Public hearings provided the opportunity for hundreds of people to testify on the impact of the budget to their communities, families, and businesses. Finance committees, such as House Finance held public hearings on a variety of bills to raise state revenues to meet the budget gap. Committees will continue to hear about the impact of budget cuts and reductions as well as review and consider legislation to raise revenue throughout the coming weeks.

The legislature discussed the following bills and issues of interest to the Asian Pacific American community in week one.

In EDUCATION:

Dropout prevention and retrieval: To close the achievement gap, CAPAA monitors legislative efforts that address dropout prevention, intervention, and retrieval. On Friday, January 15, 2010, the House Education Committee held a work session on dropout prevention and reengagement and held a public hearing on the following bills:

- [SHB 1418](#) - Establishing a statewide dropout reengagement system
- [HB 2609](#) - Regarding accountability and support for vulnerable students and dropouts
- [HB 2631](#) - Creating a dropout prevention recognition program

State education budget: The House Education Appropriations Committee held an overview of the Governor's revised supplemental budget for K-12, which is facing 408 million dollars in cuts and reductions. In addition, higher education is facing 182 million dollars in cuts and reductions in programs such as the state need grant, health professions scholarships, and work study.

Highlights of legislative discussions in the areas of **HEALTH CARE** and **HUMAN SERVICES**:

The Governor's revised supplemental budget proposed to restore many health and human services programs.

Examples are:

- Children's health coverage
- Basic Health Program
- Maternity support services
- Adult hospice care
- Senior citizens service act
- Optional Medicaid services

Highlights of legislative discussion on **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** include:

- House Community & Economic Development Trade committee held work sessions on strengthening Washington's competitiveness
- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

Topics of anticipated bills in the area of **IMMIGRATION**

- Supporting the Limited English Proficient (LEP) Pathway that promotes economic self sufficiency for refugees and immigrants
- Offenders who may be subject to deportation
- Human trafficking
- The Governor's revised supplemental budget eliminates \$4.4 million in funding for medical interpreter services. This will forego \$12.1 million in federal matching dollars.

You can find more information through our e-legislative update and Web site on committee hearings, bills, and other events of interest throughout the legislative session. Our e-legislative update provides a general overview highlighting a few bills of interest to the Asian Pacific American community while our [Web site](#) hosts a more extensive [list of bills](#) for those community members seeking more information.

Below are some scheduled meetings and hearings that might be of interest to you.

Education

Early Learning & K-12 Education

1/18/10 1:30 pm

Senate Full Committee

Senate Hearing Rm 1

J.A. Cherberg Building

Olympia, WA

Work Session:

1. Race to the Top

- a. Randy Dorn, Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- b. Judy Hartmann, Executive Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor.
- c. Mary Jean Ryan, Chair, State Board of Education.

Education Appropriations

1/19/10 8:00 am

House Full Committee

House Hearing Rm A

John L. O'Brien Building

Olympia, WA

Public Hearing: [HB 2449](#) - Concerning truancy payments to school districts.

Education

1/19/10 10:00 am

House Full Committee

House Hearing Rm A

John L. O'Brien Building

Olympia, WA

Public Hearing: [HB 2580](#) - Concerning secondary career and technical education courses.

Higher Education

1/19/10 10:00 am

House Full Committee

House Hearing Rm D

John L. O'Brien Building

Olympia, WA

Work Session: Update on Student Financial Assistance Programs - presentation by Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Higher Education & Workforce Development

1/19/10 10:00 am

Senate Hearing Rm 3
J.A. Cherberg Building
Olympia, WA

Public Hearing:

1. [SB 6355](#) - Expanding the higher education system upon proven demand.
2. [SB 6358](#) - Regarding tuition surcharges for students who do not have timely completion of degrees.

Early Learning & Children's Services

1/19/10 1:30 pm

House Full Committee
House Hearing Rm E
John L. O'Brien Building
Olympia, WA

Public Hearing:

1. [HB 2431](#) - Establishing within basic education a program of early learning for at-risk children.
2. [HB 2731](#) - Creating an early learning program for educationally at-risk children.

Early Learning & K-12 Education

1/20/10 9:00 am

Senate Full Committee
Senate Hearing Rm 1
J.A. Cherberg Building
Olympia, WA

Public Hearing: [SB 6249](#) - Concerning kids at hope.

Education

1/20/10 1:30 pm

House Full Committee
House Hearing Rm A
John L. O'Brien Building
Olympia, WA

Public Hearing: [HB 2621](#) - Designating resource programs for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics instruction in K-12 schools.

Higher Education

1/20/10 1:30 pm

House Full Committee
House Hearing Rm D
John L. O'Brien Building
Olympia, WA

Public Hearing: [HB 2684](#) - Establishing opportunity centers at community colleges.

Higher Education & Workforce Development

1/20/10 3:30 pm

Senate Full Committee
Senate Hearing Rm 3
J.A. Cherberg Building
Olympia, WA

Public Hearing:

1. [SB 6276](#) - Granting the University of Washington tuition-setting authority.
2. [SB 6562](#) - Regarding tuition-setting authority at institution of higher education. (If measure is referred to committee.)
3. [SB 6509](#) - Modifying the budget recommendations developed by the higher education coordinating board to include recommendations on tuition and fees.

Early Learning & K-12 Education

1/21/10 10:00 am

Senate Full Committee
Senate Hearing Rm 1
J.A. Cherberg Building
Olympia, WA

Work Session: Update on the Building Bridges efforts for dropout prevention, intervention, and re-engagement.

Public Hearing: [SB 6403](#) - Regarding accountability and support for vulnerable students and dropouts.

Education

1/22/10 8:00 am

House Full Committee
House Hearing Rm A
John L. O'Brien Building
Olympia, WA

Public Hearing: [HB 2834](#) - Regarding gang and hate group activity at schools and school activities.

Health Care and Human Services

Health & Long-Term Care

1/18/10 1:30 pm

Senate Full Committee
Senate Hearing Rm 4
J.A. Cherberg Building

Olympia, WA

Public Hearing: [SB 6280](#) - Concerning East Asian medicine practitioners.

Health & Human Services Appropriations

1/21/10 8:00 am

House Full Committee

House Hearing Rm B

John L. O'Brien Building

Olympia, WA

Work Session: Effects of budget reductions and proposed reductions on long-term care and developmental disabilities provider systems.

Health & Human Services Appropriations

1/21/10 1:30 pm

House Full Committee

House Hearing Rm B

John L. O'Brien Building

Olympia, WA

Work Session: Effects of budget reductions and proposed reductions on health and human services programs for vulnerable adults and children.

Finance

1/22/10 1:30 pm

House Full Committee

JT. w/ House Health Care & Wellness

House Hearing Rm A

John L. O'Brien Building

Olympia, WA

Public Hearing: [HB 2388](#) - Concerning public health financing.

Economic Development

Community & Economic Development & Trade

1/18/10 1:30 pm

House Full Committee

House Hearing Rm C

John L. O'Brien Building

Olympia, WA

Work Session: [Washington STARS](#) - Innovation Research Team.

Economic Development, Trade & Innovation

1/19/10 8:00 am

Senate Sub Committee
Senate Hearing Rm 3
J.A. Cherberg Building
Olympia, WA

Work Session: Export assistance programs.

Community & Economic Development & Trade

1/21/10 10:00 am

House Full Committee
House Hearing Rm C
John L. O'Brien Building
Olympia, WA

Work Session: The State of the State's Economy.

- a. Washington State Economic and Revenue Outlook.
- b. Washington State Labor Market Update.
- c. Washington State Economic Climate Study.
- d. Washington Innovation Economy - Progress Report and Priorities.

Economic Development, Trade & Innovation

1/21/10 10:00 am

Senate Full Committee
Senate Hearing Rm 3
J.A. Cherberg Building
Olympia, WA

Public hearing: Small Business Development Center [S-3752].

Immigration

Labor, Commerce & Consumer Protection

1/19/10 1:30 pm

Senate Full Committee
Senate Hearing Rm 4
J.A. Cherberg Building
Olympia, WA

Public Hearing:

1. [SB 6330](#) - Permitting the placement of human trafficking information posters in rest areas.
 2. [SB 6332](#) - Concerning human trafficking.
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Budget

Ways and Means

1/18/10 3:30 pm

Senate Full Committee

Senate Hearing Rm 4

J.A. Cherberg Building

Olympia, WA

Public Hearing: Governor Gregoire's 2010 Supplemental Proposed Budget.

Information is current as of: January 16, 2010.

To find out more information on a particular bill, please visit <http://www.leg.wa.gov/>

CAPAA was established by the state legislature in 1974 to improve the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) by insuring their access to participation in the fields of government, business, education, and other areas. It has a board made up of 12-governor appointed members that represent the diverse APA communities of Washington State.

To receive more electronic updates, visit us at <http://www.capaa.wa.gov>. To unsubscribe, [click here](#).